

Judge Judith H. Ramseyer was elected to the King County Superior Court in 2012. She began her professional career in 1971 working with adolescents and families, earning both her master and law degrees at night while working in the juvenile justice system. During that time, she was responsible for working with mental health experts to design and implement in Washington one of the first programs in the nation to treat juveniles adjudicated for sexually motivated offenses. Her commitment to juvenile justice runs deep.

Judge Ramseyer is fortunate to have begun her legal career as the first law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge William L. Dwyer, who instilled in her a commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, analytical rigor, and compassion for the public we serve. For 25 years she litigated complex civil cases in both state and federal courts, including class action, securities, consumer protection, federal habeas corpus, and death penalty cases.

Judge Ramseyer is a lifelong advocate for women, children, and the disenfranchised. She has been recognized for her efforts as recipient of Washington Women's Lawyers' President's Award and Passing the Torch Award. She received Washington's State Bar Association's inaugural Excellence in Diversity Award for chairing a task force that conducted the first statewide Glass Ceiling Survey documenting the status of women and people of color in private law firms. For many years Judge Ramseyer chaired the Federal Bar Association's Pro Bono Program, she served for six years as a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference Committee, was Secretary of the King County Bar Association, and has mentored many law students and lawyers from diverse backgrounds.

Judge Ramseyer's commitment to enhance the administration of justice has continued as a judge. She has served as Chief of the Clark Children & Family Justice Center during its move to a state-of-the-art courthouse and detention center, leading it in an intervention paradigm shift to a behavior health therapeutic court. Judge Ramseyer has served as a member of King County Superior Court's Executive Committee; Budget Committee Chair; Past-President of the William L. Dwyer Inn of Court; and was appointed by Chief Justice Mary Fairhurst in 2019 as Chief of the Fire Brigade, an educational and problem-solving arm of the Bench Bar Press Committee on issues involving public access to courts and court-media relations. Judge Ramseyer was elected as a Superior Court Judges' Association (SCJA) District 1 Trustee in 2016, was President Judge-Elect 2019-20, and SCJA President 2020-21.